# REPUBLICAN SOLUTIONS FOR AMERICA'S EDUCATION SYSTEM

Freedom begins in the classroom. For too long, parents and students have had a front-row seat to the decay of the American education system; now, they are demanding change.

# Republicans are ready to offer solutions.

### **School Choice:**

- Students should not miss out on the education that's best for them because of their ZIP code.
- No child should be trapped in a failing public school because teachers unions want to monopolize schools for political power.
- Representatives Jackie Walorski (R-IN) and Burgess Owens' (R-UT) bill, the <u>Educational Choice</u> for <u>Children Act</u>, expands learning opportunities for students and families.
- Republicans will support Course Choice programs in public schools to empower students and parents with flexibility to pursue career and technical education or gifted and talented programs.

## **Protecting Parents' Rights:**

- It is the responsibility of parents to keep their children safe—unfortunately, public schools are making this even more difficult.
- Some schools are concealing gender transitions and controversial gender or sex education curricula from parents.
- And a school in Loudon County infamously tried <u>denying</u> that a sexual assault took place on its campus.
- Republicans introduced the <u>Parents Bill of Rights Act</u> to ensure parents are not silenced at school board meetings or branded "domestic terrorists" for speaking out and to ensure parents are notified of violent activity occurring on school grounds.

### **Promoting Transparency:**

- School districts across the country are also resisting curriculum transparency efforts. Some
  parents have resorted to filing Freedom of Information Act requests, but are being charged
  exorbitant rates by school districts to obtain information about school curriculum.
- The <u>Parents Bill of Rights Act</u> ensures parents are not stonewalled by the education establishment when questioning school shutdowns and mask mandates or resisting <u>Critical</u> Race Theory and gender theory policies.
- This bill also ensures that parents have a right to see a school's budget and spending and empowers parents to protect their child's privacy.

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### **Empower Gifted Students to Thrive:**

- As progressive school boards cancel gifted-and-talented programs, students in other countries
  are outpacing U.S. students in STEM achievement.
- If we want our country to stay competitive, we must create and encourage opportunities for students to build strong foundations and excel at the level that is best for them. Holding students back holds our entire country back.
- The Parents Bill of Rights Act requires full disclosure to parents and the public when schools weaken or eliminate gifted and talented programs, which will empower parents to fight back against these destructive policies.

### **Protecting Title IX:**

- Title IX revolutionized women's access to sports and education, but now it is under threat by a
  progressive extremist agenda that seeks to pit biological males in direct competition with
  biological females.
- The Left claims to fight for transgender rights, but this reckless agenda will erase women in sports.
- Representative Greg Steube (R-FL) introduced the <u>Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act</u>
   of 2021 and Representative Mary Miller (R-IL) introduced the <u>Safety and Opportunity for Girls</u>
   <u>Act</u>. These bills would prohibit the Biden administration from bullying schools seeking to
   protect the safety, privacy, and opportunities of women in sports.

## Free Speech on College Campuses:

- Academic freedom is taking a back seat to woke orthodoxy on many college campuses.
- The free exchange of ideas is essential to the pursuit of higher learning—without it, postsecondary education loses much of its value.
- That is why Representative Greg Murphy (R-NC) introduced the <u>Campus Free Speech Restoration</u>

  Act which will require colleges and universities to uphold First Amendment rights on campus.

# No Funding for Closed Schools: -

- Schools that are closured, whether it is due to teacher union strike activity or unnecessary COVID restrictions, should not receive federal funding.
- Many students are still years behind in reading and math because of school shutdowns.
- Republicans tried repeatedly to ensure that school districts receiving taxpayer funds for COVID
  mitigation and recovery agreed to keep their doors open. Unfortunately, Democrats chose the
  interests of their political cronies over the interests of children every time. Providing in-person
  learning for students is imperative for the future of our country.

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